

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FORT MYERS REGULATORY OFFICE
2301 MCGREGOR BOULEVARD, SUITE 300
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33901

Regulatory Division West Permits Branch Fort Myers Regulatory Office

OCT 30 2001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Permit Application No. 199904283(IP-MH)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act:

APPLICANT:

S.W. Florida Land One, LLC

8660 College Parkway, Suite 160

Fort Myers, Florida 33919

<u>WATERWAY & LOCATION</u>: The project site involves freshwater-forested and freshwater-herbaceous wetlands within the Deep Lagoon watershed. The project is located south of Gladiolus Drive in Section 33, Township 45 South, Range 24 East, Lee County, Florida.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE: Latitude 26°31'06" N, Longitude 81°55'00" W

WORK & PURPOSE: The applicant is proposing to construct a commercial and residential development to be known as the "Summerlin Preserve". The 76.04-acre project site is currently used as a pasture and consists of 8.18 acres of wetlands and 67.86 acres of uplands. The applicant proposes to impact 2.89 acres of wetlands by discharging 25,000 cubic yards of fill into 2.89 acres of wetlands.

As compensatory mitigation for the 2.89 acres of impacts, the applicant proposes to create a 9.34-acre on-site mitigation area. The 9.34-acre mitigation area would consist of enhancing and preserving 5.29 acres of wetlands and 4.05 acres of uplands. The 9.34-acre on-site mitigation area would be placed under a conservation easement granted to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). The applicant also proposes off-site mitigation by purchasing 0.50 credits from Little Pine Island Mitigation Bank. A wetland functional analysis has not been provided and the details and adequacy of the compensation plan have not been finalized.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: A threatened and endangered species survey was conducted and no federally listed threatened and endangered species were found. However, the project site provides marginal habitat for the federally endangered wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) consisting of 2.41 acres of disturbed freshwater marsh invaded by Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) and cattail (*Typha* sp.). Based upon the degraded condition of the on-site wetlands and the proposed wetland enhancement and preservation plan, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the wood stork. The Corps of Engineers is unaware of any other threatened or endangered species concerns in the project area. This determination is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service via this public notice.

<u>NOTE</u>: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified. The Corps of Engineers has verified the wetland jurisdictional boundary.

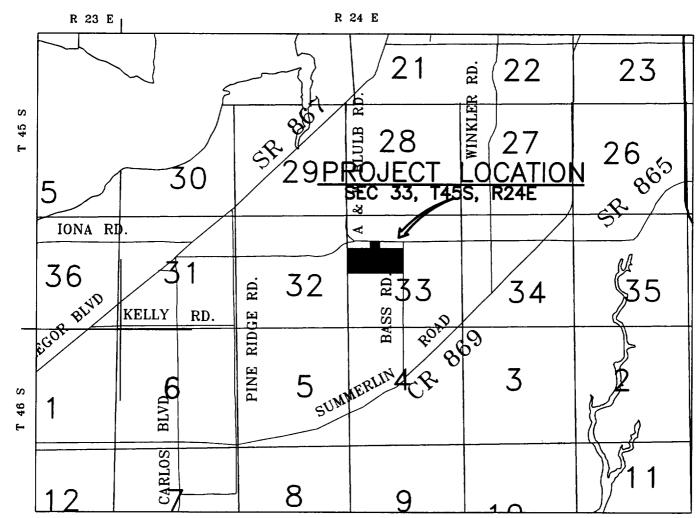
<u>AUTHORIZATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES</u>: The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is processing an application for this project. The SFWMD application number is 010816-17.

Comments regarding the application should be submitted in writing to the District Engineer at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Fort Myers Regulatory Office; 2301 McGregor Boulevard; Suite 300; Fort Myers, Florida 33901 within 30 days from the date of this notice.

If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact Ms. Mindy Hogan at the Fort Myers Regulatory Office, telephone 941-334-1975 or by e-mail Melinda.G.Hogan@saj02.usace.army.mil.







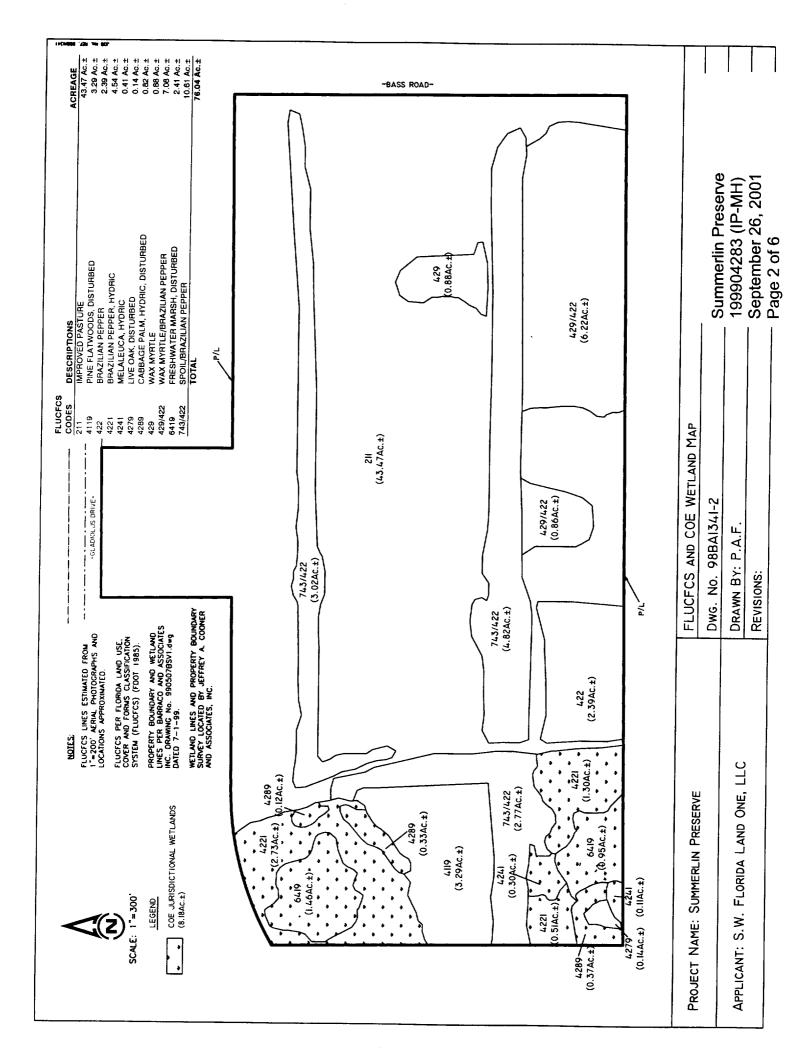
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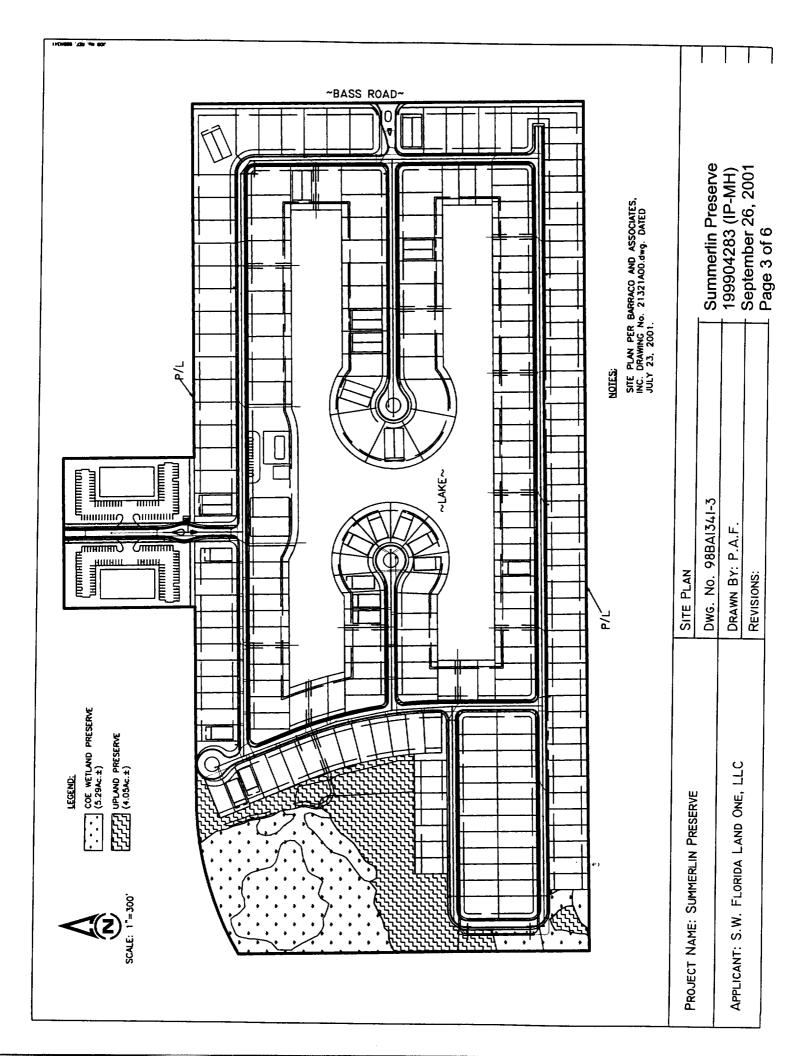
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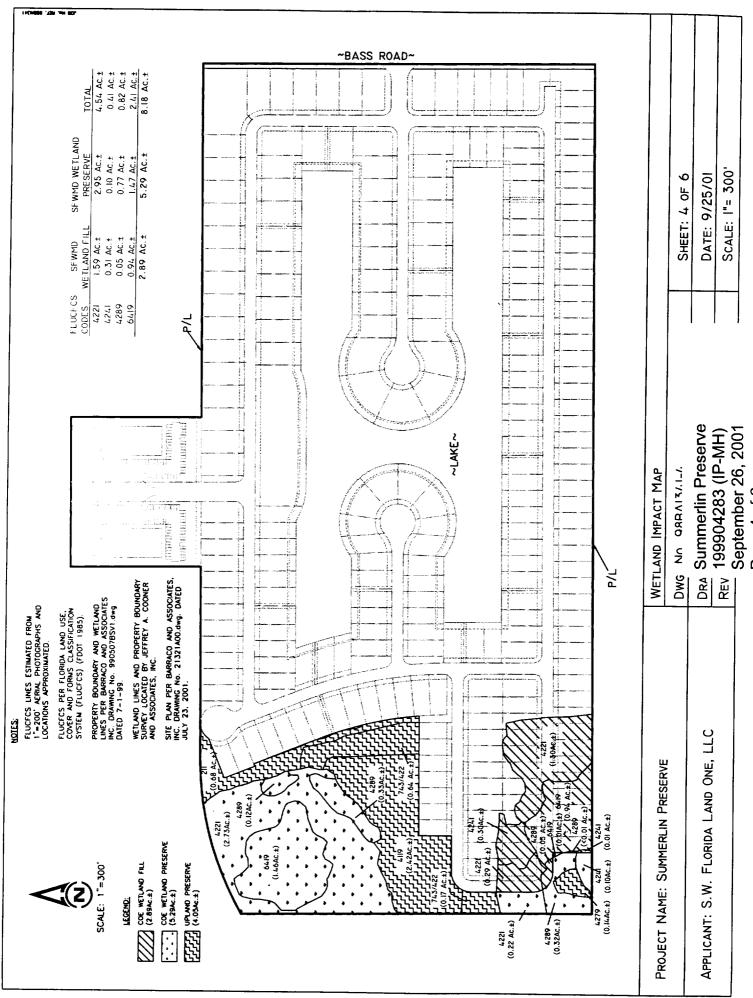
Applicant: S.W. Florida Land One, LLC

Revisions:

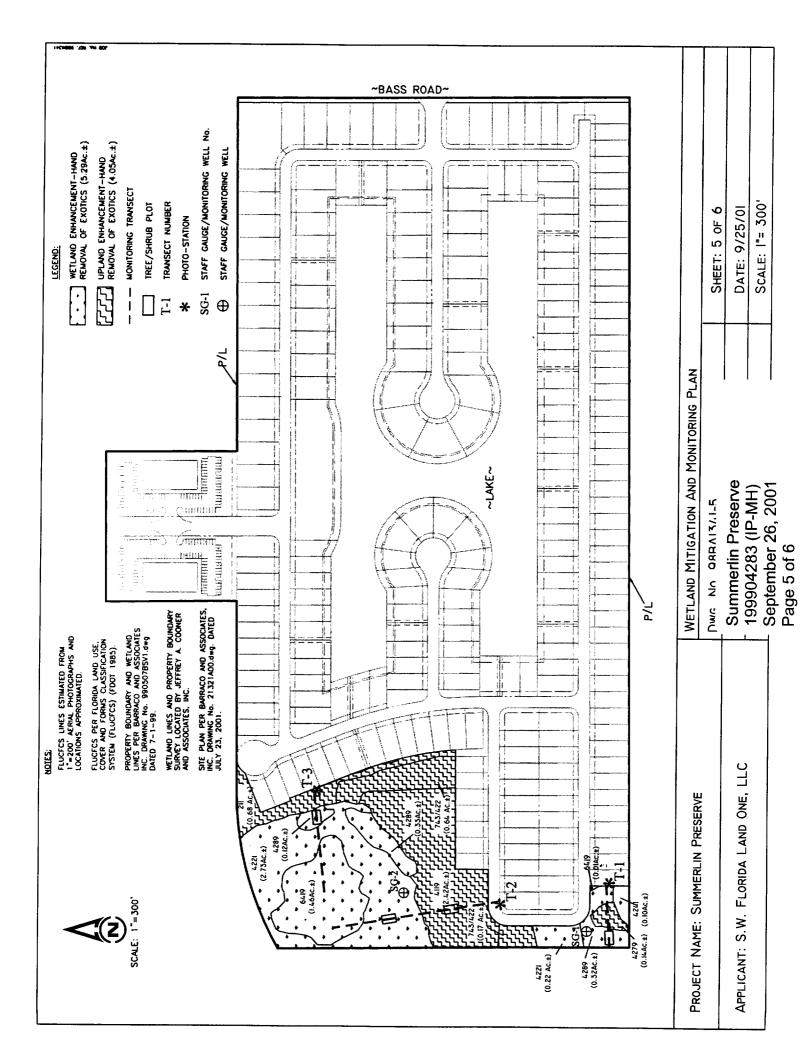
Dwg. No. 98BA Drawn By: P.A. Revisions: Summerlin Preserve 199904283 (IP-MH) September 26, 2001 Page 1 of 6

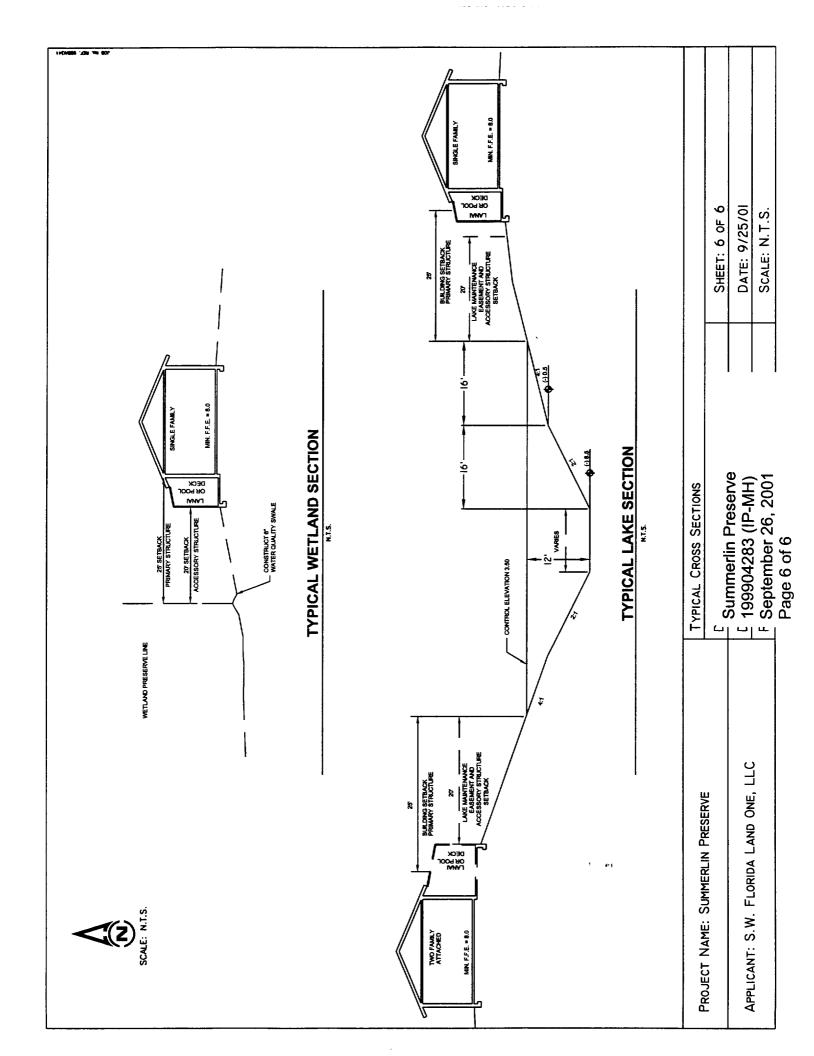






Page 4 of 6





IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required. Coordination with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Marine Fisheries Services, and other Federal, State, and local agencies, environmental groups, and concerned citizens generally yields pertinent environmental information that is instrumental in determining the impact the proposed action will have on the natural resources of the area. By means of this notice we are soliciting comments on the potential effects of the project on threatened or endangered species or their habitat.

IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties, or properties listed as eligible or inclusion therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act of the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine, Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make or deny this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY: In Florida, the State approval constitutes compliance with the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan. In Puerto Rico, a Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence is required from the Puerto Rico Planning Board. In the Virgin Islands, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources permit constitutes compliance with approved Coastal Zone Management Plan.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the designated comment period of the notice and must state the specific reasons for requesting the public hearing.

John R. Hall

Chief, Regulatory Division